



July 2009

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Copra Crane Carries a Piece of San Francisco History

By Halley Cornell

To many San Franciscans, the old, rusting tower structure on rickety Pier 84 near the Islais Creek Landing is just another crane among many dotting San Francisco's southern waterfront. But to a group of union pensioners, port officials, architects, and Islais Creek enthusiasts, the relic is a testament to the years of hard labor that helped create the remarkable City around it. The Copra Crane – so called because it was a vital part of the process of moving dried coconut, or copra, from ship to production facility, and back to ship again – is a monument as important as the Golden Gate Bridge, they say. And like the marvel of engineering that is the bridge, the Copra Crane should also evoke awe; that of the longshoremen, shipbuilders, construction tradesmen, and other laborers and their work, which laid the foundation for modern San Francisco.

Plans to save the crane were crafted a dozen years ago when

Archie Green, a San Francisco shipwright prior to World War II and a nationally renowned "laborist" and labor landmark activist, approached Julia Viera and the Friends of Islais Creek to ask them to champion the structure. The fifty-four ton, five-story-tall tower is the last of its kind on the San Francisco waterfront. It's distinct from newer mechanized cargo equipment in that it's completely hand-operated. The crane was used as part of the City's copra industry, in which coconut oils were extracted to make everything from cosmetics to movie popcorn butter. During the first half of the 20th century copra was big industry in San Francisco. In 1950, only coffee surpassed it in import value. Green thought the crane was a natural for labor preservation.

"That way of working is gone from San Francisco," said Derek Green, Archie's son and an assistant business manager for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 6. "Handling cargo and materials by hand does



not happen anymore. Copra was an interesting material itself. Not put in sacks, not palletized in boxes – it was bulk cargo that was sticky and had to be picked apart by hand. This is a visual acknowledgment that people do the work – they made that happen before container cranes. It's a living monument for this part of the City."

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Public Funding Could Spark Pier 70 Redevelopment

By Mike Stillman

It's been nearly a decade since the first serious attempt at revitalizing Pier 70, a joint effort between industrial developer AMB and the San Francisco Arts Commission, fell through due to high project costs. Since then, the need for historic renovation, environmental clean-up, and infrastructure improvements has kept developers away from the 65-acre bay front site. Stretching east of Illinois Street, between 20th and 22nd streets, the pier is mostly vacant, populated by the San Francisco Police Department's impound lot and a ship repair operation run by BAE Systems.

Pier 70 was once a major part of San Francisco's economy. But it slipped into obscurity after the end of World War II, when shipbuilding went into decline. After decades of neglect, estimated costs to redevelop the site exceed \$1 billion. But, recently proposed state legislature could provide the funding needed to make redevelopment financially feasible.

The Port of San Francisco has already secured an estimated \$200 million of the \$350 million in public funds they say is needed for the project. An additional \$140 million could be made available through Assembly Bill (AB) 1176. Assemblyman Tom Ammiano, whose 13th district encompasses the eastern half of the City, introduced the bill, which received unanimous support from the Assembly in May. AB 1176 would enable the Port to capture 90 percent of property tax revenue increases resulting from Pier 70 redevelopment, providing that 20 percent of those funds are directed towards creating open space at the site.

The bill would divert money that would otherwise be directed to the City and County of San

Rough Times for Wag Pet Hotel

By Lori Higa

It's been said that there are more dogs than kids in the City, and there are numbers to back that up. According to the San Francisco Animal Care and Control Department (ACC), there's an estimated 120,000 dogs, compared to upwards of 113,000 children. One neighborhood in particular – where the Mission, South-of-Market and Potrero Hill converge, at Harrison and 15th streets – has become a node for catering to pets and their owners. The Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) – and its new Leanne Roberts animal hospital – Petco, PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support), ACC, Franklin Square park – a favorite of dog walkers – are all located within a ten minute stroll.

Two years ago business partners Ritu Raj, a former Accenture financial



Wag guest and their companions sniffing around the rooftop open space. Photo courtesy of Wag Hotels.

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Publisher's View Candy Land

By Debbie Findling

Remember Candy Land, that brightly-colored board game where the streets are lined with lollipops and the worst thing that can happen is getting stuck in Molasses Swamp?

I work in the Presidio, San Francisco's life-size version of Candy Land. From my office I can see the Golden Gate Bridge's ever-changing rust-colored hue, glistening in the backdrop of a blueberry bay. Hummingbirds peer through my window, their wings buzzing a happy tune. The streets are hugged by perfectly manicured flowers, flanked by red brick buildings that seem to have emerged from an artificially-sweetened past. Police officers on horseback, with slick uniformed pants tucked neatly into glossy black riding boots, make sure the inhabitants are safe from badly plotted day dreams.

Recently, though, one of those officers dropped a rock in my candy bag. A \$75 parking ticket, placed neatly on my windshield. Since I have a Presidio parking permit, I huffed down to federal court, where the magistrate (surprisingly not dressed like King Kandy or Queen Frostine) dismissed the fine and apologized for causing any stress. I was out just \$5 – the cost of Civic Center parking – thinking that life in Candy Land is indeed sweet.

I left Candy Land later that day and entered into real-life San Francisco, which is more like the

board game Trouble. With its popomatic plastic-dome dice container, players try to avoid getting trounced by their opponents, and chance plays a huge part in winning the game.

Rushing across town to drive my seven-year-old daughter to a doctor's appointment near Potrero Hill, my car tumbled along potholed streets, past motorists clogging the congested roadways, and hordes of pedestrians huddled against dilapidated Muni shelters. All the while, my usually precious daughter engaged in a full-blown temper tantrum. Arriving at the doctor's office I couldn't find parking; I spotted a truck-loading zone, drove for it while cursing silently that I didn't have a single coin for the meter.

I returned to my car to find a parking ticket, placed haphazardly on my windshield by a meter maid in a three-wheeled driving contraption. I stepped over a drunken homeless man to retrieve the \$70 ticket. In the game of Candy Land, it appears; my Gingerbread man game piece moved 75 brightly-colored squares forward, then 75 right back, landing squarely in Molasses Swamp. Having played the game with my daughter not so many years ago, I should have remembered that you can only stay in Candy Land for so long before the magic wears off.

Steven Moss will return in August to present more of his views.

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I wanted to thank you for including me in the June article on community leaders "Community Leaders: Neighbors that Make a Difference." I wanted to clarify one point, however. The article erroneously states that Slippery Fish rented out childcare space from Axis Cafe. Axis Cafe actually generously provided us with free use of their community space for a year and a half. In fact, their contributions to our community – which include sponsoring Halloween

and Easter parties in Jackson Park – are article worthy. I'd hate for them not to receive the credit they deserve for contributing to Slippery Fish's existence.

Slippery Fish has since moved to a new location within Recess Urban Recreation, where we, indeed, rent the space. But the depth of generosity that Axis showed the cooperative day care facility in providing free space was incredible, and a large part of why we are growing as an organization today.

Sara O'Neill
Rhode Island Street

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Short Cuts

Lights!

Remember when there were no traffic lights in Potrero Hill? Well, those days are gone. The community's second set of lights are up at the intersection of 16th and De Haro streets, harbingers of the new police presence at that corner, as well as the intensifying commuter traffic to and from the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Mission Bay campus. Traffic lights, two Starbucks, how long will it be before a drive-in opens up? Let's hope it's a theater... One of the reasons for the new stop lights may be last month's opening of the Helen Diller Family Cancer Research Building at 1450 Third Street. The facility doubles UCSF's cancer research space, and will bring 400 scientists and support staff who have been dispersed at UCSF's Parnassus Heights and Mount Zion sites together in one place. Patients won't be seen at the building, which is chockfull of laboratory equipment, computers, and white coats.

What Recession?

We may be in a recession, but that's not stopping businesses, some of them aimed at the luxury market, from wading into the sluggish stream of commerce. In May, **Oralia's Café** opened for breakfast and lunch in Third Street's American Industrial Center. The eatery offers tasty deli sandwiches, pastries, fresh salads, and the like... **Obsolete**, a high-end

vintage furniture and tchotchke vendor launched with great fanfare - members of the Getty family were on hand - on 17th and Vermont streets... **Vintage Vantage Shirt Shop & Hug Emporium** recently opened on 18th Street, between Carolina and Arkansas streets. The shop peddles new and custom screen-printed tees and hoodies, as well as vintage shirts emblazoned with old-school logos, such as Air Jordan circa 1984, and band artwork, like Debbie Gibson and Bruce Springsteen. The 1980s Adidas Run DMC number costs \$6,500, which is enough to send old-timers digging in their closets for those Grateful Dead and Rolling Stone shirts... **Horatius**, a food and sundry emporium that offers \$10 chocolate bars, and all manner of gourmet coffee, pasta, and oils, edible and not, is now available on Kansas Street, not far from what would seem to be a Goliath-like competitor, **Whole Foods**... **Kafe 99th**, whose name refers to its owner's German roots and the size of the space it occupies, opened in the **Active Space** building on 18th and Treat streets. The café specializes in organic German pastries. Active Space serves as a kind of business incubator, offering low-cost leases for flexible time periods... Rhode Island Street-based **NileGuide** has launched an iPhone application that allows users interactive access to customized travel guides. In addition to browsing tailored itineraries, users can explore each element in their trip list, whether it's a hotel,

activity, restaurant, or nightlife spot, along with local insights, photos, and contact information... and the next time you're in Oakland check-out **Farley's east**, on 33 Grand Avenue.

Shootings

Three people were wounded in a shooting last month just as the first day of summer school was letting out at **International Studies Academy**. All three suffered wounds that weren't life threatening. The injured included a youth who was shot three times, in the foot, leg, and buttocks, and was taken by ambulance to San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH). Another victim, a summer school student at the high school, was grazed by a bullet or rock, and also ended up at SFGH. Police arrested the suspected getaway driver, Jacquez Tucker, 18, and recovered two guns at the 18th and De Haro streets scene. Another half-dozen youth were seen running through the path on 19th Street between De Haro and Rhode Island streets immediately after the incidence. An argument apparently sparked the shooting, which prompted students who were leaving the school to run inside, and the building was locked-down. Academy staff knew there were turf tensions at the campus, since summer school hosts students from five different neighborhoods, but neither the young man who was shot, nor Tucker, were students at the school. Four hundred students from high schools around the City attend summer school at the Academy.

Parks

After multiple rounds of community input, Mariposa Park has been redesigned to include a mix of Cork Oaks, Coast Live Oaks and Buckeyes, as well more citrus, such as lemon verbena. Crocosmia was added because its red flower attracts butterflies. Vines, including Jasmine, were incorporated into the trellis, and more ground planting

and lawn area were added to the plaza. A place for public art in the plaza has been identified, subject to funding. The complete design can be seen at www.sfgov.org/site/sfra_page.asp?id=5597... San Francisco police and park rangers are now actively patrolling McKinley Square for off-leash dogs. The patrol will include leashed police dogs, at the ready for some serious butt-sniffing?

Fight the Power

Tired of having to deal with citizens and local politicians, various interests are peddling state legislation that would defang grass root campaigns. Assembly Bill 1271, which may be backed by SFGH, would vastly reduce local government's ability to stop the development of helipads. And the Taxpayers Right to Vote Act, which may appear on the 2010 ballot, would require local governments to obtain a two-thirds vote before offering electricity supplies to their residents under citizen-choice aggregation. That bad boy is backed by Pacific Gas and Electric Company, and features the oddity of imposing a two-thirds vote requirement based on majority rule. Venue shopping has always been popular among interest groups, with the nefariousness-level of each effort determined by one's perspective. In these cases both power grabs stink, and should be quickly rejected by legislators and voters alike... And speaking of power, Supervisor Sophie Maxwell is hoping that Bay Area Rapid Transit board member Lynette Sweet will replace her in next year's District 10 election.

Correction

Last month's View incorrectly reported that Chet Roman had been elected to the Starr King Openspace board, when in fact a recount of the final tally placed Webb Green on the board instead ("Starr King Elects Board"). Regrets to Chet, and congratulations to Webb.

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Reuse Oasis on Edge of Potrero Hill

By Mary Purpura and Silvano Purpura-Pontoniere

For those of us trying to live as ecologically as we can, it can sometimes feel that it'd be much simpler if we didn't live in an urban area. In rural communities there's more space to grow food or install wind turbines; it's easier to envision a grey water system; and there are fewer laws restricting the keeping of small, cloven-hoofed livestock. But there's one advantage city dwellers have over our rural counterparts: we can find a used version of almost anything we need or want.

Just off of Cargo Way, at Third Street, is an unusual place filled with used treasures. Building Resources (BR) opened in 1995 as a place to recycle and reuse donated building materials, lighting and plumbing fixtures, and all kinds of paraphernalia – such as drawer pulls and doorknobs – that go into the making of a house. Building Resources is chockfull of doors and windows, toilets and ducting, tumbled, recycled glass sorted by color, sinks and PVC piping. The nonprofit doesn't accept anything toxic or not re-useable, or materials – such as particleboard or medium-density fiberboard – which would suffer as a result of outdoor storage. Over the years, BR has received and sold a hand-carved, chalice-shaped, black oak pulpit from 1895; a 1905 Chinese wedding chair with poles; and a group of chandeliers, each one eight feet across and weighing 1,700 pounds.

In BR's yard an iron fish rests on an iron bar in a rectangular concrete tub. Pipe coils around the fish, ending near its mouth, where water bubbles up. Potted succulents surround the tub. Kale, cactuses, bamboo, and various trees grow in all sorts of containers, including an old bathtub, a planter made from old doors, and an old concrete sink. Nearby, a tall wall that looks like a giant sandcastle backs a concrete pond full of goldfish and water plants. A winged gargoyle looks out from atop the wall.

"I made that wall from scrap Styrofoam and stucco with a couple of local artists," said Matthew Levesque, who has served as Building Resources' program manager since the organization was founded. "We don't build anything here unless it's 100 percent re-used."

"The planters and sculptures are here to serve as inspiration for what you can do with all these materials,"



(Clockwise from left) The wall behind this concrete fish pond is made of scrap styrofoam and stucco. Red Shovel Glass Company, a division of Building Resources, tumbles recycled glass and damaged ceramics, sorts it by color, and sells it on site. Water gurgles in a fountain made completely from reused materials.



said Phil Mitchell, who has worked at Building Resources for three years. "Simple shapes can add a lot to the garden. People might not think of how interesting an old radiator might look in their own yard. But if they see it here, and they like the way it looks, it gets them thinking about other possibilities."

BR is organized and relatively tidy. "I want to dispel that junkyard feeling," said Levesque. "The pond, fountain, and gardens soften that feeling. Keeping everything grouped and easy to find does, too. We're customer oriented and community oriented, and we are entirely about making re-use as normal as possible," he explained. "This is not about being hip or an artist. I want everybody's mother to feel comfortable here." While large property owners and small contractors make up a sizeable portion of Building Resource's clientele, roughly half of BR's client base is regular homeowners and renters who want to take on a small project, or replace something that's worn or broken.

"You can't have a culture that re-uses materials without helping people to understand the principles behind re-use," Levesque said. To that end, one of Building Resources' missions is to educate. Four classes are typically offered each season – there will be a break from classes until the end of the summer – on topics ranging from how to re-wire a lamp, hang a door, or hand cast stepping stones from scrap glass and plaster. BR staffers are willing to help novice do-it-

yourselfers figure out how to realize a particular project.

Levesque points out that patience is necessary for those dedicated to re-use. "Let's say someone is looking for something specific, like a door. I may not have your door today, but I might have it on Tuesday. When somebody is working on a project, I'd like them to think, 'I should check out the re-used store first.'"

Building Resources diverts from 1,000 to 1,200 tons of material from landfill each year. Even though BR's materials are priced well below retail,

sales contribute roughly 85 percent of the nonprofit's annual operating budget, according to Ed Dunn, executive director of San Francisco Community Recyclers, BR's parent organization. The San Francisco Department of the Environment makes up the balance.

Building Resources, at 701 Amador Way, is open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. With advance arrangements, BR will use its 24-foot, biodiesel-powered truck to pick up large donations of materials from within city limits.



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Community Tours Showplace Square as part of Park Planning Effort

By Lisa Tehrani

The effort to plan open space amenities in the Showplace Square area marches on, literally. Last month the San Francisco Planning Department hosted a walking tour of the area as part of its community open space planning process. More than thirty people participated in the tour, which was led by Steve Wertheim, Planning Department project manager. Several property owners, community members and developers presented their views along the way. Particularly featured were underused street space, which could be converted to open space or improved as "green connector streets" with more trees, less pavement and an enhanced pedestrian environment.

The first tour stop was the area between Wolfe's Café and Axis Café on 8th and 16th streets. As Wertheim explained, the triangular intersection "has an amount of road capacity that greatly exceeds demand," and closing-off the street in front of the cafes would be an easy means of developing open space. Coined "Showplace Triangle" plaza, the site is one of three upcoming projects under the Pavement to Parks initiative, a collaborative effort of the Mayor's Office, Department of Public Works, Planning Department, and Municipal

Transportation Agency. Wertheim noted that the street conversion, which is scheduled to occur before Labor Day, will last just six months. If it's well received it could become permanent.

Daggett Triangle, which occupies a portion of an empty lot that's located along 16th Street, between 7th and Huhbell streets, that used to be occupied by a paint factory, served as another tour stop. Daggett Street runs between the large corner parcels. Although still considered a formal street, the developers want to turn the one acre area into a park, with housing developments flanking either side. Dan Murphy of Urban Green Devco, one of the developers, explained that the site's Environmental Impact Report considered the right of way space for use as either a park or a street. Murphy stated, "It would be a missed opportunity if a large portion of the right of way is not committed to open space." The Mayor's office has expressed interest in using the space as an urban garden for homeless individuals.

Daggett Street is 137 feet wide; most city streets are 60 feet in width, leaving considerable room for new uses. The developers would like to make the street a smaller, one-way alley. Potential park amenities are yet to be determined, but earlier community

feedback suggested preferences for a plaza-café, flexible lawn space, and a stage or terrace. The project has yet to be approved, but if developed as currently planned the surrounding housing would consist of 450 units, and be 68 feet tall, according to Murphy. Ensuring one acre of parkland would help the Planning Department achieve its goal of four acres of open space in the Showplace Square area to adequately accommodate new housing development.

Tour participants discussed how closing streets might disrupt traffic patterns and reduce street parking. Both issues will be addressed by traffic planners later in the process, according to Wertheim. "Nothing will be built unless there is environmental review," he said.

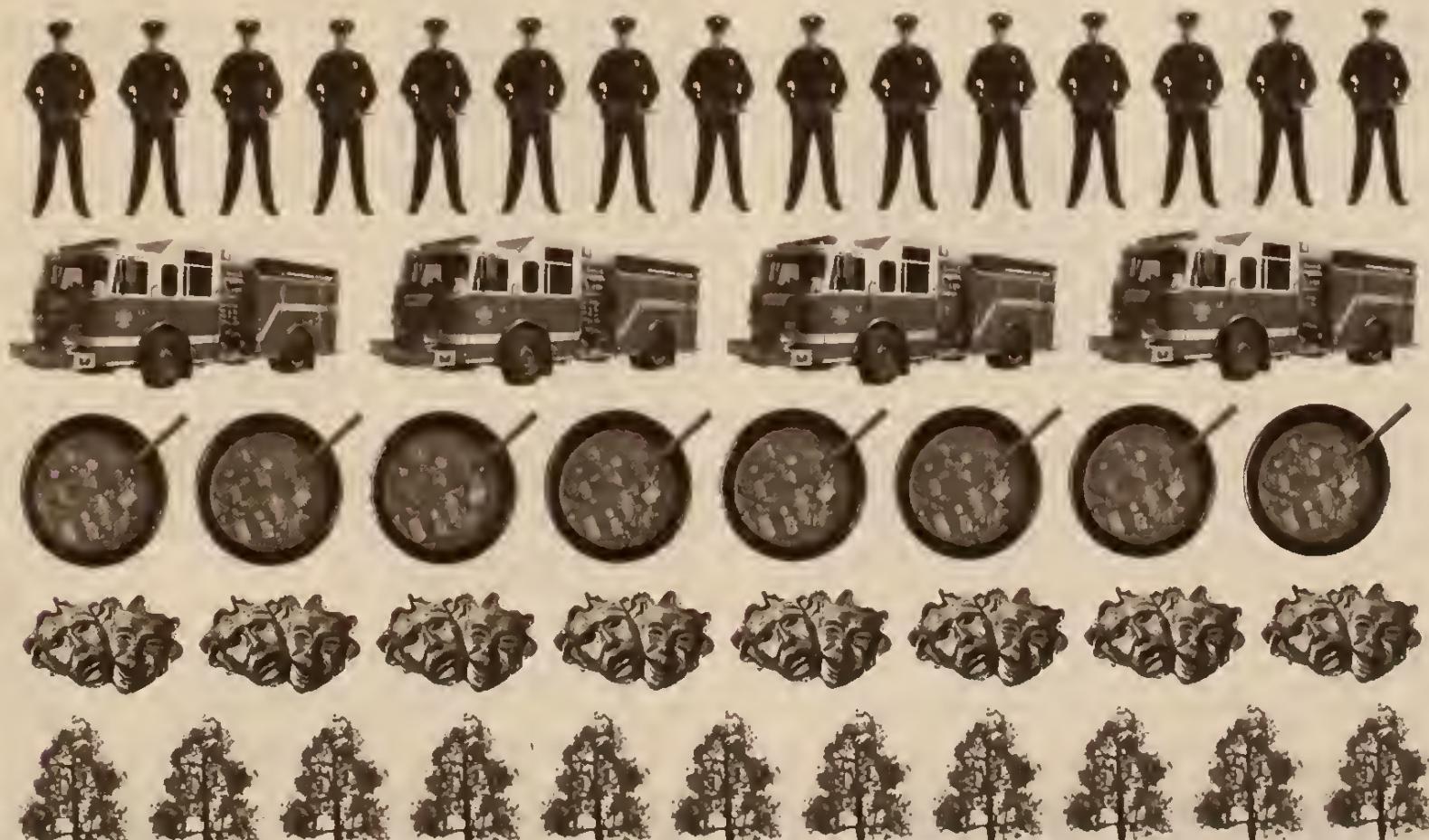
The tour then headed to Channel Street, a closed right of way that's partially used for Golden Gate Disposal's truck parking. A large portion of the street sits vacant. Planners are considering converting that street or Hooper Street into a green connector that will link to the planned railroad crossing on 7th Street, leading to Mission Creek and the Mission Bay parks. Tour participant Corinne Woods of the Neighborhood Parks Council explained, "It is so important to think about how we connect neighborhoods

as we move forward."

Golden Gate Disposal's General Manager Maurice Quillen explained that his company is interested in acquiring a piece of Channel Street for parking their fleet in exchange for parkland they own in Little Hollywood. The exchange isn't finalized, and planners are waiting for public input on the open space planning process before moving forward with any agreements. According to Quillen, "The additional space [on Channel Street] would give us the ability to have better truck parking. With the implementation of the Fantastic Three program we added 50 percent more trucks." He added that when Channel does reopen it will be located between a garbage company and a public storage facility, which may not be the best location for a green connector street. Quillen also asserted that Hooper Street is closer to the 7th Street railroad crossing, and would make for a more logical choice given the flow of pedestrian and bicycle traffic from the surrounding neighborhoods.

Townsend Circle was identified as another street that could be converted into a park or plaza. A portion of Division Street, at Henry Adams, could be used as open space given the excessive amount of street space in

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Local Nonprofits Take Innovative Steps to Survive

By Sarah Harper

In the current economy, making a profit is at the forefront of many people's minds. But in the nonprofit world success these days is measured by simple survival. For three Potrero Hill-based nonprofits – San Francisco Food Bank (SFFB), Potrero Hill Neighborhood House (Nabe), and SaveNature.Org – the recession has presented challenges as well as opportunities for growth.

SFFB distributes roughly 30 million pounds of food a year to 133,000 people through more than 600 community food programs. SFFB obtains its supplies primarily through donations, including food drives, corporate sponsorship, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. SFFB also accepts donations from nationwide manufacturers and California growers, such as General Mills, Kraft Foods, and Central Valley farmers, paying only shipping costs. SFFB distributes these supplies to partner organizations, including neighborhood-, school- and church-based food pantries, which in turn provide groceries to their patrons at no cost.

The Great Recession has presented unique challenges to SFFB. Associate Director of Policy and Media Renske van Staveren notes that this economic downturn seems to be broader-based and harder-hitting than previous

ones. San Francisco's unemployment rate has jumped 50 percent since last year, to eight percent, while at the same time the City has cut funding for human services. For example, Bernal Dwellings, a public housing complex that hosts a weekly pantry, recently lost funding when the San Francisco Department of Public Health cut violence prevention programs. At the same time, the San Francisco Department of Parks and Recreation, which hosts senior food distribution and summer lunch sites, has reduced its staff and facility hours. In the face of hard times the Sierra Madre and Klimm pantries, located in the Tenderloin, and the Samoan Assembly of God pantry, in the Outer Mission, have closed. Moreover, demand for free food has increased by 24 percent, and donations to the SFFB – particularly those from large food packaging companies and other retailers – have decreased.

SFFB is compensating for diminished packaged food donations by distributing more produce – now up to half its supplies. Despite the challenges, the Food Bank wants to increase its weekly produce distribution by 20,000 pounds for the next nine months, and its total food distribution to more than 33 million pounds, a goal, Van Staveren noted, that the nonprofit is on track to meet. To better serve clientele

throughout the City, SFFB hopes to replace food pantries that have closed by opening nineteen new, easily-accessible locations in the Bayview, Outer Mission, Sunset, Richmond and other neighborhoods. The Food Bank's newly-launched marketing campaigns, including advertising through Monster.com and faith-based organizations, are helping increase awareness of its services. The nonprofit is also working to remove any perceived stigma associated with accepting food through charity, which is particularly crucial for first-time food pantry clients. For example, SFFB-supported pantries are typically arranged farmer's market style to normalize patrons' shopping experience.

SFFB has increased its volunteer force by a staggering 45 percent this year. Van Staveren noted that volunteers from all walks of life – school groups, senior citizens, members of faith-based organizations, and for-profit companies – are donating their time. This assistance has helped the Food Bank bolster its 65-member staff, and keep pace with growth in demand. In the face of a widespread and deep-set recession, it appears that "people are increasingly aware that food is a right," Van Staveren said. She hopes this awareness, coupled with education on food-related advocacy and policy, will motivate

more Americans to take action against hunger.

The Nabe is a multi-purpose community center that serves clients of all ages, with an emphasis on youth and education. It hosts a range of services, including educational programs and food pantries. According to Executive Director Edward Hatter, last year the nonprofit was doing fairly well: donations were reasonable, government funding was stable, and key programs were being supported. But this year things changed. Like other distribution centers, the food pantries are strained beyond capacity, job-seekers looking for employment through the Nabe's workforce placement program are less often successful, and, the City has cut funding for substance abuse and criminal rehabilitation programs.

To face these challenges, the Nabe is thinking "outside the box." The nonprofit has partnered with the Culinary Academy and the SFFB to support its four-times-a-week dinner for in-need youth. To accommodate squeezed public sector budgets, the Nabe is requesting less funds for its rehabilitative programs from the City. To reduce its dependence on government funding, the nonprofit is relying more heavily on volunteers, and seeking to increase community donations and bolster extra-

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The Hill has Eyes

By Tom Donald



Vincent and Tyler Dagron in the cool confines of Eyes On You.

Originally from Poitiers, France, Vincent Dagron grew up the son of two opticians. As a young man, he worked in the family practice, and discovered his love for the craft. Following in the profession, Dagron obtained an optician's license in France. In 1993, he emigrated to the United States to pursue a long-held dream of designing eyewear. He built up a nationwide business, traveling extensively to call on customers. But over time he felt something was missing from his life, and decided to return to his roots. In 2000 Dagron graduated from University of California, Berkeley's School of Optometry.

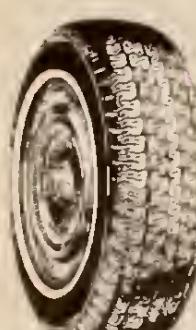
Earlier this year, Dagron and

his wife Tyler opened Eyes on You, at 251 Rhode Island Street, near Showplace Square. Open six days a week, the store has already attracted a diverse customer base that includes professional people employed in the area as well as Potrero Hill residents.

Together the Dagrons speak several languages, including English, French, Spanish and Vietnamese. They share a loft on Pennsylvania Street, and appreciate the neighborhood's diversity of dining and cafes. Apropos for vision care specialists, they love the Hill's magnificent views.

Tom Donald is a film director who lives with his wife Mitzi Ngim on Potrero Hill's outer reaches.

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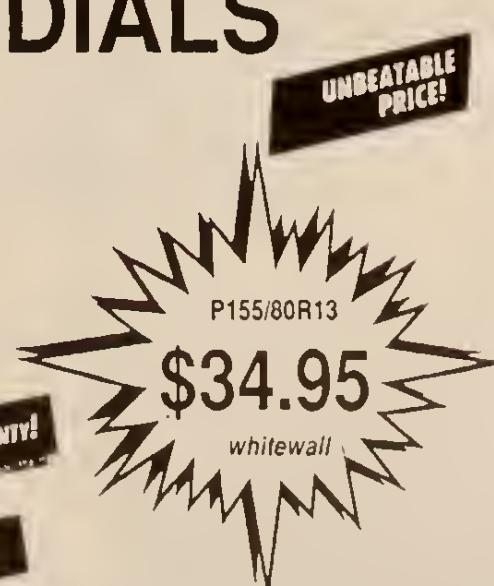


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Live Oak Elementary School Navigates the Great Recession

By Halley Cornell

While some independent schools may be suffering enrollment drops due to the faltering economy, Potrero Hill's Live Oak School is hanging on to its student body, in part by offering extra financial help to struggling parents. The kindergarten through eighth grade day school, which charges more than \$21,000 a year for student tuition, has established an emergency fund for parents who, in better economic climates, would otherwise not qualify for financial aid.

A quarter of Live Oak's students receive tuition assistance. Aid packages generally range between 15 percent and 75 percent of annual costs, and are needs-based. Last year, an additional 4.7 percent of the student body received support from a fund that was created after the school over-enrolled its kindergarten classes two years ago. "Essentially, we allocated it in the budget for our reserve fund," said Head of School, Holly Horton. "These funds are essentially to support families who hopefully have short-term needs. There are a lot of families who qualify for that and who are really making sacrifices for their children to be here."

Horton said that out of 250 students who hail from various San Francisco neighborhoods, about five are not re-enrolling for the 2009 school year, a number that's lower than the school anticipated. Horton doesn't know what to expect regarding future attrition rates, particularly for would-be incoming kindergarteners. The instability of the economy and the job market make the prospect of nine years of tuition costs daunting at best. "We've lost very few students - the last thing that parents want to do is disrupt their kids' education. Particularly in independent schools, the parents who choose them put education very high in their hierarchy of priorities," Horton said. Still, Horton said, there seem to be more parents than normal who were seriously considering public schools this year who wouldn't have a year ago.

A local parent of two young boys enrolled at the school said she may have been among that group had she not been granted assistance through the special fund. She said after her family's investment income was halved, private school suddenly seemed to be slipping out of reach. "We applied for financial aid at the last minute, and were one of the families who wouldn't have qualified for regular aid but were able to get some this year," said the parent, who asked not to be named. She said the Live Oak emergency fund contributed \$8,000 toward tuition assistance and waived fees. But the assistance may

not be available on an ongoing basis. Live Oak doesn't have an endowment, and parents have been told not to assume that they'd be able to keep the additional tuition subsidies going in the future.

According to Horton, like other businesses Live Oak is cutting back where it can, including simplifying events, dialing back teacher pay increases, and keeping professional development local to lessen travel costs. She said that they have contingency plans in place, there's just no way to gauge how deeply economic woes will affect future enrollment rates.

The pinch is glaringly evident at Jackson Park and Playground, where Live Oak School holds its recess and Physical Education classes. The park has suffered service, program and hours cuts due to staff lay-offs. The San Francisco Recreation and Park Department has reduced staff by almost half to accommodate an \$11.4 million cut from its \$140 million budget, with more reductions likely. As a result, full-time equivalent staff at Jackson Park dropped from two to one-half earlier this year.

Some Potrero Hill residents have called for Live Oak to pay for its use of the park. Currently, the school has a permit that allows it to use the facility for free. According to Horton, some community members want Live Oak to pay the salaries eliminated from the Recreation and Parks Department budget. "We are certainly not the only ones who use the public park. All of our families are tax-paying members of the community and we are good neighbors who take care of it," she said. Live Oak students are involved in an educational garden project at the park and the school holds monthly park clean ups.

Potrero Hill resident Karen Glasz feels that Live Oak should provide financial assistance to the park. According to Glasz, the park is used by many of the community's poorer residents, and Live Oak should consider that they could help all kids benefit, instead of just their students. "If they close that clubhouse, the only kids who will be able to benefit from Jackson Park are Live Oaks kids. I had my toddler there one day and counted the Live Oak kids - there was more than half a million dollars using the park, right there in one class," she said, referring to tuition cost per student. "It was quite a dichotomy - at the other end of the park were the poor kids using the clubhouse that is now in danger of closing, and the tennis courts were just full of rich Live Oak kids."



Jewish Film Festival Opens this Month

By Jim Van Buskirk

This month the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival (SFJFF), the first and largest of its kind, will celebrate its 29th year of offering films, festivities, and discussion programs highlighting 5,769 years of Jewish culture. Attracting more than 33,000 filmgoers, the SFJFF is world-renowned for the diversity and breadth of its audiences and films. This year's festival takes place from July 23 to August 10 at five Bay Area venues: the Castro Theatre, San Francisco Jewish Community Center, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, CineArts@Palo Alto Square, and Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center in San Rafael.

The festival opens with Australian director Cathy Randall's debut feature, *Hey, Hey, It's Esther Blueberger*. Newcomer Danielle Cantanzariti stars as Esther Blueberger, whose odyssey begins when she escapes her Bat Mitzvah party and is befriended by Sunni (Keisha Castle-Hughes), the effortlessly cool girl who is everything Esther thinks she wants to be, plus has a far hipper single mom (Toni Collette). Closing night is *The Wedding Song*, a new film by Karin Albou set in Tunis in 1942. With Allied bombs dropping and the Nazis marching in, Albou examines the intersection of Arab and Jewish cultures and female sexuality as it plays out between two teenage girlfriends – one Muslim, one Jewish – and the bond they've shared since childhood.

In between is a variety of features, documentaries, animated films, and shorts sure to interest gentiles and Jews alike. In *A Matter of Size*, the Festival's centerpiece offering, Herzl is a 340-pound chef still living with his mother and gaining pounds in his weight loss class, until he and his friends find salvation in an ancient and unlikely sport that celebrates size: Sumo wrestling. Examples of world cinema include the latest from Argentine director Daniel Burman, *Empty Nest*, in which a couple is forced to re-examine their staid relationship when their youngest leaves home. *Broken Lines* is Sallie Aprahamian's story set in London about the conflicts of keeping marital vows. And in Shmuel Beru's *Zrubavel*, a young boy

dreams of becoming Israel's Spike Lee, seeking to rise above the traps of his troubled neighborhood while his grandfather holds his extended family together.

"Reel Change: Social Justice Films" offers a special series of films, including *The Yes Men Fix the World* by Mike Bonanno and Andy Bichlbaum, who expose the crimes happening behind the scenes in Bhopal, New Orleans, and other locales. This year's documentaries include the return of Yoav Shamir's *Defamation*, a look at anti-Semitism and the identity issues it fosters; and *Chronicle of a Kidnap*, in which Nurit Kedar follows Karnit Goldwasser, the wife of Ehud Goldwasser, one of two Israeli soldiers captured in 2006 by Hezbollah.

The animated feature *Mary and Max*, directed by Adam Elliot, is a bittersweet tale of a friendship between oddballs at their wit's end with the world but at peace with each other, featuring the voices of Toni Collette and Philip Seymour Hoffman. Jewtoons offers a program of animated short films from Israel and around the world. SFJFF will present the American debut of the Puppet Folk Revival Band, a cult sensation in Israel, at a special event at CELLSpace.

Local filmmaker Jenni Olson is represented with her elegiac short film, *575 Castro Street*, featuring Harvey Milk's camera store as recreated for the Gus Van Sant feature, *Milk*, with Milk's own voice excerpted from the audiocassette he recorded "in the event of my death by assassination." SFJFF's Freedom of Expression Award will be bestowed on film director Aviva Kempner, the founder of the Washington Jewish Film Festival, who has reviewed films for the past quarter century. Premiering at the Festival is her new documentary, *Yoo-Hoo, Mrs. Goldberg*, the humorous and eye-opening story of television pioneer Gertrude Berg, the creator, principal writer, and star of *The Goldbergs*, a popular radio show for 17 years, which became television's first character-driven domestic situation comedy in 1949.

For ticket information: 866.55. TICKETS or www.sffjff.org.



Katherine Flores, 11, (left) and Daniel Webster Elementary School Principal Moraima Machado play cone catch at the Coach Wooden for Kids Inch & Miles Sportsmanship Tennis Festival last month at the Potrero Hill Recreation Center. At the festival third to fifth graders participated in interactive tennis games and drills designed to build character, social and leadership skills based on legendary University of California, Los Angeles basketball coach John Wooden's Pyramid of Success. The festival was sponsored by Harper for Kids (www.harperforkids.org). Photograph by Peanut Louie Harper.

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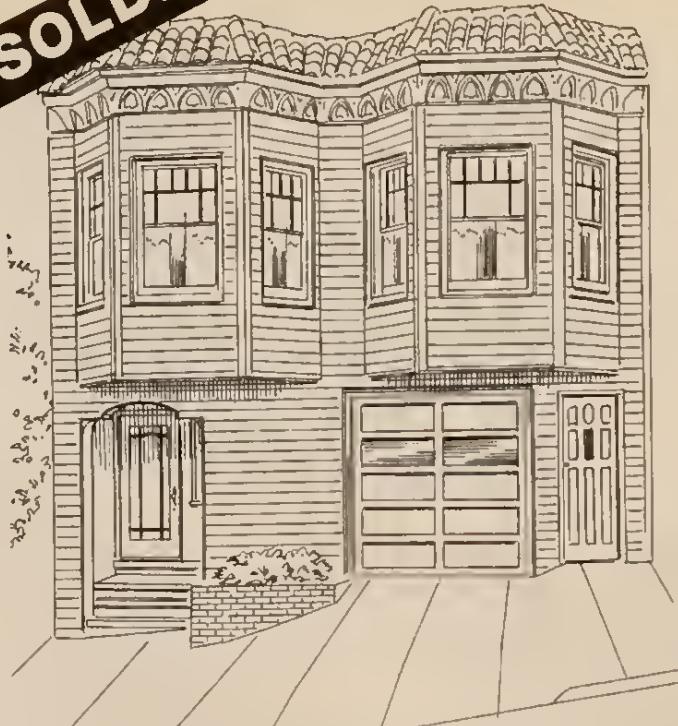
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Family Violence Prevention Fund Moving to the Presidio

By Anthony Myers

At a recent fundraiser at the Four Seasons Hotel, battered woman's advocates announced that domestic violence homicides in San Francisco have dropped by 80 percent in the past decade. Part of this decline can be attributed to Potrero Hill-based Family Violence Prevention Fund (FVPF), which works to end intimate partner, family and teen abuse. From their Rhode Island Street offices, FVPF provides a mix of public education and advocacy, addressing the issue at the local and national levels.

The nonprofit was an instrumental voice supporting passage of the landmark Violence Against Women Act in 1994. Creating innovative ways to spread the message of violence prevention has been a primary tactic of FVPF for many years. The organization relies on Public Service Announcements and other outreach channels to communicate with immigrant groups.

FVPF, which has been in the neighborhood for more than two decades, will soon upgrade their offices and raise their profile by creating the International Center to End Violence, proposed to be built in the historic Presidio. No lease has been signed yet, but the move has been included in the Presidio Trust's proposed rehabilitation of the parade grounds and surrounding buildings in the park's Main Post. The Center would join the Walt Disney Family Foundation Museum in two of the brick Montgomery Street Barracks that line the main parade ground's western edge.

According to the Presidio Trust's website, "The Family Violence Prevention Fund is proposing to rehabilitate Building 100 as the

International Center to End Violence. The Center's programs would be accommodated in the 33,800 square-foot historic Building 100 and in a new one-story, 3,800 square-foot addition in the existing courtyard on the west side of the building. The Center would serve as the FVPF's headquarters and include related general office use, exhibit space, an interactive learning center, meeting space, a training academy, storage, and a gift shop."

Building 100 is an 1890's-era building that sits adjacent to the Presidio Bowling Center at the corner of Montgomery Street and Sheridan Avenue. The Main Post landscape slopes uphill from the north end of the parade ground to the bowling alley and Building 100. As a result, Building 100 has one of the best views in the area; visitors can see the bay, Crissy Field and parts of Russian and Telegraph hills. The building has yet to be fully restored, so the move may not happen for a year or so. According to Presidio Spokesman Clay Harrell, FVPF would "...be a great tenant."

The Main Post's seven acre parking lot is slated to be replaced with a green area. The safe, clean environment would allow visitors to experience the Center's message in a non-threatening, scenic setting.

Old Mint Has New Currency

By Jim Van Buskirk

There's still money in the Old Mint. On May 25, 1870, during its construction, a ceremonial cornerstone was laid in the Mint's northeast corner. One of each denomination of the several coins struck at the previous San Francisco Mint was placed inside. Unfortunately, no records remain as to exactly which stone contains the coins, which are now quite valuable, historically and monetarily. An attempt to find the buried treasure was made in the 1970s; the search will continue when construction begins on the San Francisco Museum and Historical Society's (SFMHS) Mint Project.

The Old Mint, which sits majestically at the corner of Mission and Fifth streets, is San Francisco's second mint, the first having opened on Commercial Street near Montgomery in 1854. The Old Mint served as a coining facility from 1874 to 1937, when it was succeeded by the New Mint, at 155 Hermann Street, now used exclusively for proof coinage.

SFMHS curator Kristin Morris regularly leads SFMHS members through the abandoned facility. Recently Morris walked a tour group through the Press Room, where money was printed; the Safe Room, site of two original vaults; and the basement, where additional vaults were later installed. Morris explained that the entire building slid southward three feet during the 1906 earthquake.

The Old Mint was designed by Alfred B. Mullett, Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department from 1866 to 1874, and best known for designing the Old Executive Office Building in Washington, DC. The Old Mint's classical architecture, one of the last and best of the Federal Greek Revival style, is built around a

completely enclosed central courtyard that covers a cistern. These features helped save the building during the 1906 fire, when heat from nearby burning buildings melted the metal window coverings and the plate glass windows. Dedicated efforts by Superintendent of the Mint, Frank Leach, and his men preserved the building, along with one-third of the country's gold reserves in bullion, and most of the City's cash.

Although affectionately referred to as "the Granite Lady" by local historians, only the building's base and basement are granite; the edifice is mostly sandstone. Its thick walls were designed to thwart tunneling into its vaults, and its mostly metal construction protects it from theft and fire. Both a California and a National Historic Landmark, the edifice has no leaks or seismic issues, but needs updated electrical, telecommunications wiring, and temperature control systems.

The Mint Project Capital Campaign hopes to raise \$47 million, about half of the project's total estimated cost. The majority of the Mint's 100,000 square feet will be used as exhibition space, with permanent exhibits on the first floor and changing exhibitions on the second. When the museum is completed in 2013 it will feature a café, wine bar, store, and a revitalized visitor's center, relocated from Hallidie Plaza. Whether or not the cornerstone is ever found, there are riches at the Mint, according to the Project's tagline: "The Mint used to be a place where the wealth of the nation was stored. Now it will become a depository of the region's treasured stories...an even greater wealth."

See www.themintproject.org for more information.



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Pier 70

Continued from Front Page

Francisco's and State of California's general funds, but leave funding in place for public schools, Bay Area Rapid Transit, and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. In a press release, Ammiano stated, "AB 1176 will bring San Francisco a vital step closer to creating a waterfront neighborhood of national significance." The bill is currently awaiting approval by the State Senate.

Pier 70 was once home to Union Iron Works, and later Bethlehem Steel. The companies employed thousands of workers who produced steel for the City's first skyscrapers, and built ships for the United States navy from the Spanish-American War through the Korean War. However, the area's rich maritime history – which makes it eligible for the National Register of Historic Places – left behind toxicity levels high enough to have the pier classified as a Brownfield site, as well as 40 boarded-up and seismically unfit buildings. Under Port guidelines, at least 17 of the most historically significant buildings need to be retained and retrofitted.

In spite of the current financial crisis the Port believes that diverting

tax revenue to Pier 70 will benefit the City and the state. "We think that Pier 70 is a resource for the country, the state, and the region, and it is worth investing state dollars into," said David Beaupre, the Port's Senior Waterfront Planner. According to Tina Olson, the Port's Deputy Director of Finance and Administration, by creating jobs Pier 70 development would contribute to state income tax revenues. "It's not that it would be a complete loss to the state," she said. "That's the logic behind a redevelopment, you redevelop an area, you bring in new businesses that wouldn't otherwise locate in that state or locality, and then everyone wins."

According to Rich Hillis, of the Mayor's Office for Workforce and Economic Development, Pier 70 could re-emerge as a crucial part of San Francisco's economy. "Pier 70 is a vastly underutilized site that's poised to generate jobs and economic activity. It's pretty flexible," Hillis said, "it could be good for office space, R&D, a campus; it's good for everything except housing."

The Port's Master Plan dictates that a revitalized Pier 70 will consist of mixed-use development. In addition to creating office and commercial space, a developer will be required to provide public access to the bay

and open space to park-deprived Dogpatch, Mission Bay, and Potrero Hill residents.

Proposition A, a general obligation bond passed last November, will provide \$20 million to help develop Crane Cove Park, which is located along 20th Street in the Pier's northwest corner. Other already secured public funding sources include \$45 million in tax credits that the Port will receive when Pier 70 is added to the National Register of Historic Places. Proposition D, also passed last November, would direct 75 percent of the estimated tax revenue that new hotels and businesses located at Pier 70 will generate to the project, which could reach \$75 million.

Upwards of a dozen developers, including Catullus, Build Inc, TMG Partners, and Pacific Waterfront Properties, have demonstrated interest in the project. "It's the best site left in San Francisco," said Alicia Esterkamp, Principal for Pacific Waterfront Properties. "Public financing solutions are an important step in moving Pier 70 forward as a viable project," said Esterkamp. According to Beaupre, the Port will release a request for proposals, the first step in soliciting developers, by the end of the year.

Bands for Books to Benefit the Potrero Branch Library

By Frank Gilson

Bottom of the Hill, The Connecticut Yankee and other Potrero Hill merchants have joined forces with Friends of the San Francisco Public Library to present Bands for Books this September. Featuring family-friendly bands, a silent auction, and a play area for kids, proceeds from the event will benefit the Potrero Branch Library Campaign.

The Potrero Branch Library, located on 20th Street, is currently being renovated, with new amenities to include an expanded second floor, a designated teen area, Wi-Fi Internet, American Disability Act accessibility and more computers. The branch is scheduled to re-open in early 2010. While the branch is closed, the Potrero Library Campaign Committee, made up of neighbors, library lovers and merchants, is raising funds for furnishings and equipment; costs that are not covered by the bond money that's financing the renovation.

If you'd like to donate an item to the silent auction, or want to learn more about the Potrero Library Campaign, contact Mary Abler, 626.7512, extension 107; mary.abler@friendssfpl.org. Band for Books will be held on September 26, 2 to 6 p.m., at Bottom of the Hill, 1233 17th Street, The Connecticut Yankee, 100 Connecticut Street, and Concentra Medical, 2 Connecticut Street. \$20 per adult, \$5 per child, \$10 for all kids for families with more than two children.

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Kids on the Block

By Stacey Bartlett



Happy Birthday to Cosimo "Street Rat" Noravian, who turns four on July 8. With love from Mommy, Daddy, Casey and Penny.



Max, seven, stepped-up from first grade at Live Oak, and his brother Farley, four, earned his blue ribbon in swim class, which consisted of five whole up-faces and lots of other hard stuff. Even bigger, Farley learned that after four years of wearing his clubfoot brace every night and during naps, he's now 100 percent corrected, and can sleep barefoot for the first time in his life! Oh, and Max and Farley both had birthdays.

Showplace Square

Continued from Page 5

the area, according to Wertheim. Sean Murphy, the developer for the adjacent parcel at 1 Henry Adams, explained that development plans include a 40 foot wide piece of public open space in between two residential buildings that will have 230 housing units. The presentation prompted Isabel Wade, the Neighborhood Parks Council's Executive Director, to remark that such small pieces of open space within developments are not acceptable as parks. "We are not getting the kind of open space we need for neighborhoods with the current planning codes. The walk struck me because that part of town still has a lot of land, it is not like downtown where there is no space. At some point we have to realize that we cannot have housing on every square inch of land," she said.

The tour ended in front of Jackson Playground, where Steve Cismowski, the San Francisco Department of Recreation and Parks' Neighborhood Service Area Manager, expressed his interest in expanding the park to provide for more community-based amenities, given that such a large part of it is reserved for baseball fields. Cismowski suggested extending the park either onto Carolina Street, or to a lot on the west side. According to Wade, Jackson Playground is a good opportunity for the area, and it shouldn't be considered an adequate neighborhood park in its current form. She supported Cismowski's expansion ideas, and hopes that it can become "a real green space for the neighborhood."

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Wag Hotel

Continued from Front Page

consultant, and Joel Leineke, from the construction trades, opened Wag, a high-end pet boarding facility, in the neighborhood. They chose an industrial site behind Rainbow Grocery and OfficeMax, for the second location – the first is in Sacramento – for what they hoped would become a chain of posh pet hotels. Raj and Leineke jump-started Wag by acquiring K-nine to Five, a small local pet care business.

With its gleaming glass and brick exterior, Wag looks more like a swanky spa than a kennel, featuring high-end finishes and plenty of chrome. The facility includes easy-to-hose down epoxy floors; stainless steel cleaning, laundry and food serving systems; a swimming pool; plush, branded bedding; live-fish aquarium; and flat screen televisions offering four-legged boarders cartoons and Animal Planet programming.

With 35,000 square feet of space, including 3,000 square feet of retail, and more than 5,000 customers, Wag is one of the City's two largest privately-owned boarding facilities. At peak times, Wag can house more than 275 dogs, and has 20 two-story cat condos that can accommodate 40 felines. An overnight stay at Wag costs \$48 for a four by four foot glass enclosed box, a steep price when compared with Pet Camp, Wag's nearest competitor in terms of size and amenities, which charges \$45 a night for a space twice as big. For an extra fee, customers can check in with their pet via "wag cam." Wag recently added pet grooming to its menu of services.

Pet care in San Francisco has traditionally been a family affair, populated by mom and pops. Although Bayview-based Pet Camp recently launched a companion facility in Pacific Heights, Cat Safari, Wag has bigger aspirations, hoping to become a nationwide chain. Industry statistics indicate that fewer than one percent of the more than 9,000

boarding facilities in the United States generate annual revenues in excess of \$1 million. Both of Wag's facilities are in that one percent, according to Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Richard Groberg, who joined the company last fall.

One happy customer swooned over Wag on the SF CitySearch website. "My little Zoey went to Wag and I was incredibly nervous. My husband found the place and it all checked out. All I know is that when we got back to pick her up she was the happiest dog ever...she seemed relaxed, like she was on a super-fun vacation. She had swim time in the pool, a peanut butter-filled kong toy, many play group sessions and oh, a bath. Everyone was accommodating, friendly and incredibly professional. Even though I thought Wag was pricey, it was definitely worth it."

But not every customer thinks Wag is worth the price. According to a complaint posted on the same website, the facility has "a nice facade...you can dress it up but it's still a kennel. What's really annoying is that they try to get you to pay for all the extras (like offer belly rubs, massage and private walks) which really should be included. I mean, come on, I have to pay to have my dog's belly rubbed after she's been in a cage for 22 hours? There should be unlimited dog walks and play time for these prices."

One thing that did seem unlimited was the amount of money Wag's owners initially spent promoting their new San Francisco venture. Pursuing an aggressive, dotcom-style marketing approach, Wag's owners conducted a media blitzkrieg, pouring money into splashy television and print ads, billboards, Muni bus posters and even a Wag opening party at AT&T Park. In the wake of this spending spree Wag failed to honor its commitments to local nonprofits, and left bills unpaid. Over the last few years Wag has been sued by multiple parties, including its web designer, electrical contractor, Dogster –

a social networking website for dog owners – and its landlord,

according to San Francisco's Superior Court records.

Groberg, who, with a Wall Street background, was hired for his expertise running a chain of 250 Veterinary Centers of America hospitals, is dedicated to making good on Wag's debts. The new CEO quickly negotiated "amicable solutions" and payment plans for most of Wag's creditors. For others, Groberg said, "We were able to convert debt to equity, procure concessions from our landlord and arranged to re-pay nonprofit sponsors with a combination of money, in-kind donations of retail product, free pet boarding, giveaways and other services." Groberg added that he's been able "to raise more capital, bringing in new money from existing Las Vegas-based investors."

Groberg is now in the midst of launching "a subtle re-branding campaign. We're lowering our prices slightly and getting more involved in community building." According to Groberg, who commutes to the City with his pet Akita from his home in Las Vegas, "Wag was guilty of generating a reputation as a high-priced, Ritz Hotel of pet boarding, where pets could get blueberry facials and zen massage along with luxury rooms. The reality is that we are quite competitively priced, especially given the quality of care, cleanliness and the level of customer service we provide."

The City hosts seven licensed animal boarding businesses, with many more illegal overnight facilities, which are monitored by the San Francisco Department of Public Health, with unofficial assistance from the ACC. Businesses catering to pets gravitate towards cute names, including A Lucky Dog, Bon Voyage, Call of the Wild, Dog Gone Good, Fetch, Hightail Hotel, Reigning Dogs & Cats and See Spot Run.

With more dogs than you can throw a frisbee at in San Francisco, there's significant demand for boarding, even in the current recession. The poor economic climate, however, has taken a big bite out of Wag's plan to build a third luxury pet hotel in Silicon Valley. The builder/developer on that job fell behind schedule, said Groberg, and Wag filed a lawsuit for non-performance, leaving Wag's Sunnyvale location on hold. Today, of Wag's original two founders, only Leineke is still actively involved, serving on the board of the privately-held enterprise.

Rena Jackson, 74 Years Old, Passes



A Potrero Hill resident for almost a half a century, Rena Jackson died last month at the age of 74. Jackson lived and worked on the Hill, for more than fifteen years serving as a one person postal clerk, talking in utility bills, selling stamps and money orders, and receiving her clients' letters and packages at Atkinson's Pharmacy, which was located at 20th and Connecticut streets. Pharmacy customers would find Jackson at her small window, offering a warm smile, a willing ear, and a soft presence. Even after diabetes caused Jackson to slowly lose her eyesight, she continued working with the aid of a magnifying glass. Years after the pharmacy closed local residents would tell Jackson how much they missed "the post office lady."

Jackson's daughter, Angela Jones-Perez, described her mother as "a lovely woman with the strength of a soldier. Even during her most difficult moments her kindness and dry sense of humor were present." Towards the end of her life Jackson resided at Mills-Peninsula Extended Care, where she crossed over in the early morning hours of June 3.

Jackson's two sons, Carol and Ronald Jones, continue to live in their mother's home at 20th and Kansas streets. Her daughter lives in Burlingame.

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Archie Green, Champion of Labor Lore

By Halley Cornell

Archie Green (June 29, 1917 - March 22, 2009) was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba. His father, who would influence Green's interest in unionism and laborlore, fled to Canada with his wife from czarist Russia in 1905. The family moved to California in 1922.

Archie received a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley in 1939. He obtained a Ph. D in folklore in 1968, specializing in the music, folklore, and vernacular of the working culture. His education in such matters began long before he received his degree, however. He served in the U.S. Navy, and as a Journeyman Shipwright on San Francisco's central waterfront. He was a life-long member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, wrote definitive studies of worker slang and coal miner music, and became known as the country's leading laborlore conservationist.

During the early 1970s, Green worked with the U.S. Congress to win support for the American Folklife Preservation Act of 1976. The Library of Congress's American Folklife Center, which preserves and presents work like Green's, is a result of this effort. Green is well known for his work on early hillbilly music recordings, and for his efforts to collect and publish the lyrics of almost 200 labor movement songs originally printed between 1909 and 1973 in the Industrial Workers of the World's *Little Red Songbooks*.

Green, who also served as secretary of San Francisco's Fund for Labor and Culture History, a nonprofit that supports local laborlore efforts, received the Living Legend award from the Library of Congress in 2007. His work on the Copra Crane restoration project is among his many efforts to preserve historic labor landmarks and other vestiges of the sometimes overlooked culture of everyday workers.

Copra Crane

Continued from Front Page

When Archie Green first approached Viera, she and her group were working successfully toward cleaning up Islais Creek. Green recognized that the pair could form an influential and unique partnership between environmentalists and labor. According to Harvey Schwartz, who joined as a historian for the project, and serves as curator of the International Longshore Workers Union (ILWU) oral history collection, the partnership worked well from the start.

"Here we are, two old longshore workers, a funny old historian, and an old shipwright and navy man – all these old guys and this one woman, Julia. She was eternally amused by that situation, but it was a very good team that was slowly able to convince the Port that this was a good thing – an asset, not a liability."

With the ILWU's blessing, Green created the Copra Crane Labor Landmark Association (CCLLA), and brought Potrero Hill residents Bill Ward and Don Watson on board as president and secretary-treasurer. Soon, other labor unions joined in the Copra monument effort, volunteering time, labor, and holding CCLLA meetings in their halls. Robin Chiang of San Francisco design and planning firm RCCo signed on to provide architectural advice for the project. The campaign slowly gained momentum, and by 2001 the Port was hosting CCLLA meetings. In May 2006, the association received \$35,000 from the ILWU to repair the pilings under the crane.

Earlier this year, the Port of San Francisco and the Board of Supervisors approved acceptance of a gift of \$450,000 in work and materials from the CCLLA, thereby securing the crane. Plans call for moving it to a temporary port location in June while four pilings are replaced and the platform is restored.

Just as work on his project was

about to begin in earnest, on March 22, 2009, 92 year old Archie Green passed away. "Archie in many ways was the spiritual guide of this whole thing," Schwartz said. "He's been there from the beginning, he had such a wide appreciation for labor and landmarks that honored workers, not just the elites of society. He clearly brought the construction trades into this project, did a lot of academic work with the pile drivers – he had a national presence, and it's just very hard to think about replacing somebody like that."

According to Derek Green, there's still much to be done for the project. Additional money needs to be raised to pay for the sandblasting and repainting of the crane, for instance. But he said, despite the loss of his father, the wheels are in motion and they'll stay that way. "The process has been authorized by the City and there will be a transition into doing the actual work," he said. "We'll keep on working, keep it going. Everybody's on board and we want to complete what [Archie] and his friends started more than ten years ago."

According to Port staff person David Beaupre, the crane must first be lifted by another crane. Then the pier will be repaired and the crane will be sandblasted and painted, a process that will take a year or more and cost about \$750,000. The next step is the inspection of the crane by a certified civil engineer to develop the lifting plan for moving the structure. "We were just about to embark on that when we lost Archie," he said. "He kind of marched the group and that hit the group hard ... Archie was a remarkable man. Like him, the Port recognizes the folks and the labor that built the port, and there isn't a great amount of recognition on the waterfront for that. With the modernization of maritime cargo, there aren't as many types of work that still utilize that particular skill. The crane is strategically located where it reflects both the historical and the modern working waterfront."

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arts

July 1 - July 11
Theater: Fayette-Nam at Thick House Theater

On a fate-filled night in Fayetteville, North Carolina, on the fringes of the U.S. Army Base known as Fayette-Nam, a young African-American soldier goes AWOL before being deployed to Iraq, and hides out at a donut shop. He also just happens to be in a love triangle with the shop's owner and her daughter. Will they each discover what they're really looking for before it's too late? Find out in the world premiere of this dark comedy by Aurorae Khoo. Thursday through Saturday 8 p.m.; Sunday 2 p.m. Tickets: \$15 to \$25 sliding scale, no one turned away for lack of funds! Thick House Theater, 1695 18th Street, between Carolina and Arkansas streets. Information: www.asianamericantheater.org; 401.8081.

July 1 - July 17
Art: "You Are Exactly Where You Need to Be"

The Ping Pong Gallery presents its first solo exhibition with Susan O'Malley. A Bay Area artist and curator, O'Malley uses simple and recognizable tools of engagement – offering a pep talk, distributing flyers in neighborhood mailboxes, hanging inspirational posters – to offer entry into a sometimes humorous interaction of everyday life. O'Malley has participated in programs and exhibitions at Southern Exposure, Hardware Store Gallery, and Mission 17, among other venues. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 to 9 p.m.; Fridays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ping Pong Gallery, 1240 22nd Street, between Pennsylvania and Mississippi streets. Information: www.pingponggallery.com; 550.7483

July 3
Art: Second Annual Farley's Staff Art Show

View art created by those talented people that serve you coffee each day. The cafe's walls and window boxes will be filled with a variety of artistic styles and mediums. Two bands consisting of past and present Farley's staff will perform. 7 p.m. Farley's, 1315 18th Street

July 9 to 19
Family: Giants County Fair

The San Francisco Giants are bringing all the games, food, music, and fun of a county fair to San Francisco. Featuring 19 carnival rides - including a ferris wheel, bumper cars, and a haunted mansion - midway games, carnival food, a Giants baseball zone, and live music. McCovey Cove, Lot A. \$5 for adults; kids 12 and under free. Unlimited ride tickets \$20 for adults; \$15 for kids. For tickets and information: sfgiants.com/fair; 1.800.225.2277.

July 1 - 31
Photography: "We Are"

Almost three decades ago Kanemoto was a homophobic tourist at a gay event in San Francisco. She was also a brilliant photographer, snapping away at the dramatic Sister Missionary Position, a Sister of Perpetual Indulgence. The two began a conversation that changed Kanemoto's life. Her archival portraits display different people with one look on their faces: a mix of determination and triumph that equals wary fearlessness. As one observer noted, "The show...captures the moment in time in which the gay rights movement blossomed, recalling both how different

& ENTERTAINMENT

July 2009

things became after that moment, and embodying the concept of a forgotten gem." Tuesdays to Thursdays 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Fridays to Sundays 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Rayko Photo Center, 428 Third Street, at Harrison. Information: www.raykophoto.com; 495.3773.

July 7
Kids: Explore Golden Gate Park with Naturalists

Take a closer look at the fascinating world of plants through fun hands-on activities. Learn about the importance of maintaining biodiversity, and the controversial issue of native versus invasive species. For ages seven and up, children under 13 must be accompanied by a parent. Participants should wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes for outdoor activities. Tuesday from 1 to 4 p.m. Tickets: Academy admission plus \$3 per person. Buy tickets online or call 379.8000 (press 0 for a reservation representative). Information: www.calacademy.org/events.

July 10
Poetry: A Celebration of Poetry & Printing

Join poets and letterpress printers Lisa Rappoport and Katherine Case for a celebration of the tradition of letterpress printed poetry. Rappoport and Case will read from classics and their new work, including Rappoport's new double chapbook published by Etherdome, *Figments and Aftermaths*. Letterpress broadsides created by the poets will also be available. Buy a broadside and pull it yourself off the press. 7 p.m. Free. San Francisco Center for the Book, 300 De Haro Street, at 16th. Information: www.sfcf.org.

July 15 - 18
Art: The Crucible's 9th Annual Fire Arts Festival

Experience this spectacular open-air exhibition of interactive fire art, performance and the largest collection of outdoor fire sculpture on the West Coast. You'll be dwarfed by gigantic sculptures, get hands-on with interactive installations, and experience an eye-popping array of cutting edge fire sculpture and art.

Fire performers will awe and amaze the most discerning pyrophile, and you'll be dazzled by incredible music and dance performances. It's the must-see event of the summer. This year, the View's own Catie Magee will be showing her first fire sculpture, *Harmoni!* 8 p.m. to midnight. Tickets: adults \$35 to \$50; youth \$30 to \$45; discounts on advance purchases. West Oakland near the West Grand exit off 880. Information: thecrucible.org; 510.444.0919 X122.

July 26
Theater: San Francisco Theater Festival

The San Francisco Theater Festival, an annual showcase of the region's theater companies and solo performers, will feature performances by *Wicked* cast members and *Beach Blanket Babylon*. All types of theater will be presented, including drama, comedy, one-acts, excerpts, musical theater, solo performers, improv, and new works. Twenty shows for children will be on offer. It's fun and free. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Yerba Buena Gardens/Yerba Buena Center for the Arts/Zeum/Metreon/Contemporary Jewish Museum, 760 Howard Street. Information: www.SFTheaterFestival.org; 543.1718



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744 Alabama St "Important Enigmatic New Works Full of Mystery and Wonder"
Sharaine Bell, David King, Bill Samios

June 19th

2425 17th St "Death by Color"
Cameron Chernoff, Catherine Reed

July 10th

744 Alabama St "Urban Birdseye: Quilts, Places and Other Things"
Summer Lee, Mac McNamara, Karen Slovak, Colleen Stockmann

July 17th

2425 17th St "Body Language: figurative art speaks"
Emily Citraro, Georgianne Fastaia, Romulo R Nisnisan Jr (ROM)

August 14th

744 Alabama St "Arts Ecclectic"
MacKenzie Davis, Mary Lou Hanley, Michelle Jader, Traci Zaretzka

August 21st

2425 17th St "Line of Sight"
Charles Keatts, Steven Scotten, Tim Svenonius

September 11th

744 Alabama St "Adventures in Photography"
Keith Gidlund, Walter Hanley, Don Ross



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On the Waterfront will present off-beat and little known tales and images focusing on the commercial, industrial and transport development of the Southern waterfront, from Rincon Point to Hunters Point. July 14, 7 p.m. reception; 7:30 p.m. show, San Francisco Jewish Community Center, 3200 California at Presidio. Free to members, \$5 for nonmembers. Information: 775.1111, extension 5; www.sfhistory.org. Above, Jack London and his wife on Snark in the San Francisco Bay. Photograph courtesy of the Lantern Slide Collection, Department of Geography, University of California, Berkeley.

New Book Celebrates Potrero Hill History

By Jim Van Buskirk

On a Saturday in May Goat Hill Pizza's back room was filled with library supporters, history buffs, and Hill dwellers new and old. The event, a fundraiser for the Potrero Library Campaign and a book launch party for *Then & Now: Potrero Hill*, the new volume by Peter Linenthal and Abigail Johnston, was coordinated by Linda Clark and Melinda Lee of Coldwell Banker Real Estate and Tina Tom of the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library (SFPL). Goat Hill Pizza was a perfect venue, having served the community "sourdough crust and City views" for almost thirty-five years.

Linenthal and Johnston each spoke for a few minutes, relating how they'd expected the project to be a piece of cake after having worked together on the 2005 *San Francisco's Potrero Hill*. It turned out, however, that the new book contains almost completely new material, demanding many hours of collecting, sorting, and photographing. Taking some "new" photographs was risky, necessitating parking on the side of Highway 280. Other images prompted immediate responses from community members, with one book purchaser excitedly calling an old friend to tell him that, "Your house is on the cover." The book is the first San Francisco title in Arcadia's recently-launched *Then & Now* series, which pairs an historic photo with one taken recently, allowing readers to witness the often dramatic changes in a neighborhood.

One two-page spread features a building just south of Goat Hill Pizza.

The four images show the history of the 200-seat Alta nickelodeon, also known as "the Nick," that opened in 1913. A 1968 image displays the defunct theater serving "briefly as a practice studio for the Grateful Dead. That is Jerry Garcia to the right of the flower." An image by Jo Babcock, circa 1979, shows the theater as the Lighthouse Church of God in Christ, and the contemporary photograph displays the building with the marquee removed in its present incarnation as home to the Gurdjieff Society. A journey of nearly a century without turning a page.

The "then" photographs were chiefly collected by the Potrero Hill Archives Project - which Linenthal and Johnston coordinate - supplemented by selections from the California Historical Society, SFPL's San Francisco History Center, and other sources. Most of the "now" images were taken by Linenthal. While the first book was arranged chronologically, this volume is plotted geographically, starting with the "Top of the Hill," and progressing North, East, South, and West. It inspires one to take walking tours around the Hill to the various locations, comparing the changes.

For information about the Potrero Hill Archives Project, including a link to the book: <http://www.potreroarchives.com/>. For information about the Branch Library Improvement Program: <http://sfpl.org/news/blip/improvementprogram.htm>. For information about donating to the Potrero Branch Campaign: Tina Tom, 626.7512 x 106 or friendssfpl.org

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Going to War

By David Matsuda

During my first tour of duty to Iraq I was deployed with brigade combat teams which patrolled an area that included Sadr City – named for Ayatollah Sadiq Sadiq al Sadr, the father of Moqtada al Sadr – and Adamiyah, where anti al Qae'da tribal awakening councils emerged as some of the first paid Sons of Iraq. I conducted neighborhood negotiations, and helped Coalition Forces (CF) understand and assist local governments, as frequently embodied in sheiks and tribes.

This time around I serve at Corps level. I report to the General of Multi-National Corps-Iraq (MNC-I), who is the United States military's second in command in Iraq. He meets with officials of security-related ministries, like the Minister of Defense, who is in charge of the Iraqi Army, and the Minister of Interior, whose portfolio includes the police, national police, and border enforcement. At Corps I must think beyond neighborhoods to national level policy, and beyond local sheiks to the heads of large tribal confederations.

Iraq is a tribal nation. Whether dressed in western business attire, jeans and t-shirts, traditional *aghāl* – male head wrap with rope head-band – and *dish-dasha* – male robe – or in the wide variety of head scarves worn by females, Iraq's 27 million people have kin-based tribal relationships and alliances that form the basis for all political, economic, legal and military institutions and activity.

Because I've been involved in more than one hundred meetings with *sheikhs*, *majles al shuyukh* – sheiks councils – and all manner of tribal power brokers, I was asked to be an advisor to the MNC-I Tribal Engagement Team (TET). As the Commanding General's Cultural Advisor, it's my job to work with TET to help military units throughout the country identify and negotiate with the sheiks and tribes in their areas of operation.

Early in the war CF ignored tribes, to their detriment. Tribes, some numbering in the millions, crosscut ethno-sectarian boundaries, creating unmarked borders and kin-based voting blocs. To successfully engage tribal peoples I've had to learn *urf*, or tribal customary law. With guidance from helpful sheiks, I came to understand that tribal support isn't gained through winning

hearts and minds, but by respecting how the lives of tribal peoples and cultures are structured around honor and shame. In Iraq's tribal society acting honorably means meeting ones obligations in times of war and peace and, most importantly, erasing shame and restoring honor through revenge, banishment or feud.

For instance, if a man *shirks* – willingly disregards his duty – he dishonors his family. If the offense is within the *khams* – five male kin related to the same patriarchal lineage head – the male offender is punished or banished by the family. If his offense is between families, he may be killed by the offended party to start or settle a blood feud. If a female has had sex out of wedlock or is suspected of improper behavior, she may be subjected to an honor killing.

From a collective point of view the tribe's status relative to other tribes is lowered by individual offenses. The reduction of a tribe's honor means that its sheiks and sheikas are locked out of arranged marriages with former same status peers who may bring access to political influence, lucrative business contacts, paramilitary alliances and deterrence. To raise its status back to pre-shame level the tribe is obligated to right individual wrongs and re-raise its collective status through honor – restoration – killing, banishment, and/or feud.

I recently met with the *sheik al masha'ik*, or paramount sheik, of a tribe numbering close to two million. Using what I'd learned from previous encounters, I introduced myself and asked to see Iraq through his eyes. I said that it was an honor to meet him, and that his reputation for having a strong and just right hand preceded him. I then quoted from the Qur'an and said that, and here I paraphrase, "...it is wise to seek one who is both consulted and who consults." We chatted for more than two hours, during which time the sheik confided that he'd been reluctant to engage with CF and that he needed help negotiating a large dispute between two ethno-sectarian groups. With my background in organizational development, I helped him identify the need for stakeholder analysis, a neutral facilitator, conflict resolution and confidence-building measures as the way forward. I handed my findings to the local CF commander, who promised to help the sheik.



The saga of Potrero Hill streets and their names, initiated by Lester Zeidman in the View's December 2000 issue, continues with this moody 1949 Minor White photograph of a building at Humboldt and Kansas streets between 22nd and 23rd streets. San Francisco General Hospital can be seen in the background, far right. Several mid-19th century maps show Humboldt Street, along with other streets named after California counties, running across the Hill from the bay to Potrero Avenue, or thereabouts. But those early maps could lie; land speculators' fantasies were often imposed as tidy grids of streets upon uncharted terrain, steep and rocky in some places, underwater elsewhere. Before this image was found at the California Historical Society in 2008, the Potrero Hill Archives Project had no solid evidence that there was ever anything more to Humboldt Street than the forlorn bit east of Illinois Street that remains today. This photograph shows that Humboldt did exist, for a block at least, on the Hill's west side before Highway 101 obliterated it in the early 1950s. If anyone has proof that Humboldt was ever a real-for-true through street between Kansas and Illinois, please let us know. Maps that could lie will not be accepted as proof; City Directory references based solely on such maps will not prove anything either. We're looking for actual addresses, names, stories, and photographs associated with Humboldt Street – or any other Potrero Hill street, for that matter, -- Abigail Johnston, The Potrero Hill Archives Project, ppotrero@pacbell.net or aldwj@sbcglobal.net

Photo courtesy California Historical Society, #49-561, copyright by the Trustees of Princeton University.

It's Time to Shut It Down!

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Total capacity of emergency generators expected to be in-place by 2010: 356 MW

San Francisco's 2010 peak electricity demand, estimated in 2003: 1,079 MW

San Francisco's 2010 peak electricity demand, estimated in 2009: 967 MW

Number of inefficient refrigerators located in low-income SF households: 33,243

Annual net bill savings if all of these fridges were replaced: \$500,000

Amount Potrero Hill families say they'd be willing to reduce their electricity use to close the Potrero Power Plant: 7 percent.

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Dear Chairman Wilrich,

With the opening of the Trans Bay Cable, as well as efforts to increase distributed energy resources, San Francisco will have access to ample electricity supplies without the Potrero Power Plant. Plant closure will reduce polluting air and greenhouse gas emissions, eliminate super-heated water discharges into the bay, and enable a prime waterfront property to be redeveloped. San Franciscans have been calling for the plant to close for a decade; please make this a reality by removing all must-run contracts from the facility by May 1, 2010.

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Police Blotter

June 12, 11:10 p.m., Disturbing the Peace, Attempting to take Weapon from Police Officer, Resisting, Delaying Police, 800 block of 22nd Street: Officers Cowhig, Cader, and Burkhardt responded to a disturbing the peace call. The officers recognized one of the suspects from a prior arrest, and advised the subject that he would be patted down for weapons, which he has been known to use. The officers attempted to search the suspect, who resisted and attempted to take one of the officer's baton. The suspect was unable to get the baton, and officers had to use force to take him into custody. The officers observed that the suspect had been drinking and smelled of alcohol. No one was injured during the incident.

June 12, 8:58 p.m., Robbery with a Gun, Pennsylvania and 22nd streets: A victim was robbed by two unknown suspects as he was walking on Pennsylvania. The victim told officers that two subjects stopped him, put a gun to his head and demanded money. The victim, in fear for his life, gave the suspects his belongings. One of the suspects, after completing the robbery, turned and faced the victim, with the gun in hand. The victim was able to get a good look at the gun, and advised officers of its make and model. The suspects fled on foot after the incident. The victim wasn't injured.

June 12, 8:10 p.m., Robbery with a Gun, 3rd and Marin: A victim was robbed by two suspects while waiting for a train on the Muni platform. The victim told officers that a group of eight juveniles walked up to him and demanded his cell phone. The victim replied, "Hell no, I ain't giving you my stuff." One of the suspects pulled out a gun and hit the victim on the head, while taking the cell phone out of the victim's hand. The other suspects stood by and watched as this happened. All of the suspects fled the area after the incident. The victim refused treatment and stated he was not injured.

June 12, 12:04 p.m., Terrorist Threats, 1400 block of Illinois: Officers Hastings and Viera responded to a business regarding a threats report. The officers met with the victim, who told them that a known suspect had been making death threats to the victim and his son. The officers returned to the business when the victim called a second time, stating that the suspect was on the premise. The officers took the suspect into custody, without incident.

June 12, 12:01 a.m., Robbery with a Gun, 17th and De Haro: A victim was robbed of his cash, wallet, headphones, camera, game boy, game cards, cell phone and mp3 player while at the bus stop. The victim told

officers that as he was seated inside the bus shelter, reading a book two subjects walked by the bus stop. Five minutes later, the subjects returned, pointed a gun at him and told him, "Give it up, give me the bag." The victim gave the suspects his bag and wallet. The victim wasn't injured during the incident.

June 11, 2:05 a.m., 200 block of Texas: A victim was robbed of his wallet, cell phone, money and keys as he walked to his car, with his friend, a second victim. The victim stated that an unknown suspect walked up behind them, pointed a gun at the second victim's head, and told both victims to "give me what you got." The victims, fearing for their lives, gave the suspect their belongings. The victim stated that there was a second suspect that was standing nearby, acting as a lookout. Both suspects casually walked away after the incident. Officers searched for the suspects, to no avail. The victims weren't injured during the incident.

June 10, 11:40 p.m., 19th and Illinois streets: Two victims were robbed of their cash while they were standing on the corner of 19th and Illinois, talking. The victims told police that they were standing on the street when an unknown suspect walked up to them, pointed a gun, and said "wallets, wallets." The victims gave the suspect their money, at which time the suspect walked away. The victims were not injured during the robbery.

June 9, 9:20 p.m., Robbery with Force, Warrant Arrest, 2000 block of San Bruno Avenue: Officers Cader and Cabuntala responded to San Bruno and Bacon regarding a robbery. Additional officers responded to the area and detained the suspect, who they identified by the description given by headquarters. The victim told officers that the suspect had approached him from behind and took his money. The victim chased the suspect, but lost sight of him. The suspect was placed into custody and transported to Bayview Station. The officers also discovered two outstanding warrants for the suspect's arrest.

June 8, 12:44 a.m., Carjacking with a Gun, Stolen Auto, Dakota Street: Officers Thompson and Cabuntala responded to the 1800 block of 25th Street regarding a carjacking report.

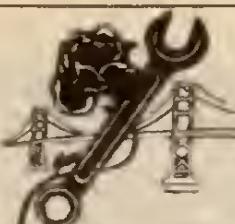
The officers spoke with the victim, who stated that she was stopped on Dakota Street when an unknown subject pointed a shotgun at her through the car window, and ordered her from the vehicle. The victim, fearful for her safety, complied and gave the car to the suspect, who jumped in and drove away. The victim ran home and called police. The officers searched for the suspect and the vehicle, to no avail. No one was injured during the incident.

June 6, 7:04 p.m., Firearm with Altered Identification, Gun loaded, Resisting, Delaying Peace Officers, 900 block of Connecticut Street: Bayview's plainclothes team members were in the area of Wisconsin and 25th streets when they saw a person that they knew from prior contacts loitering in the area. The officers attempted to speak with the subject, who took off running. The officers chased after the subject, who dropped a magazine portion of a gun as he ran. Officer Kirchner stopped and recovered the magazine, then continued running after the suspect. Officer Rodatos located the gun, which had dropped to the ground when the suspect went over a chain link fence. Officers Hunt and Lyons joined in the foot pursuit of the suspect, and were able to take him into custody without further incident. The suspect was transported to Bayview Station, where he was interviewed and confessed to having the gun. The suspect was booked and transported to County Jail.

June 5, 12:44 p.m., Driving While Under the Influence of Alcohol, Parole Violation, Traffic Violation, 25th and Connecticut streets: Officers Hargreaves and Mishagi were traveling in the area of Connecticut Street when they saw a car go through a posted stop sign. The officers pulled the car over and were about to make contact with the driver when the subject's car rolled down the hill and slammed into the police car. The officers immediately made contact with the driver, who smelled of alcohol and couldn't stand on his own. The subject was arrested and transported to a facility for a breath test, which he failed. The officers discovered that the suspect was on parole, which earned him a bus ride back to prison. The passenger of the subject's vehicle complained of pain and was seen by a medic, but was released at the scene. No officers were injured during the accident.

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Nonprofits

Continued from Page 6

organizational partnerships. Hatter emphasized that the Nabe has the expertise to handle the challenges, having weathered similar shakeups in the past. "They seem to come in ten-year cycles," he observed.

SaveNature.Org, formerly The Center for Ecosystem Survival, helps preserve ecosystems and biological diversity worldwide. Since 1988, the nonprofit has, in collaboration with other organizations, helped protect roughly 11 million acres of rainforests and coral reefs. Many of SaveNature.Org's programs are based on small donations; individuals can purchase an acre of rainforest or coral reef or, by donating as little as 25 cents to a Conservation Parking Meter, save up to 90 square feet of rainforest.

In light of the global recession, SaveNature's Director Norm Gershenson is seeking new funding sources while maintaining the organization's

simple goal: to motivate every individual to protect nature. To do so, according to Gershenson, his organization must "add more colors to our conservation pallet." Like Hatter, Gershenson is thinking outside the box. He anticipates launching new projects designed to capture the attention of a wider audience. The sale of hand-crafted bee boxes will enable purchasers to house solitary bees in their backyards; the "Edible Education" outreach program will emphasize the impact of participants' food choices on nature.

SaveNature's most successful educational program, the Insect Discovery Lab, currently presents more than 800 programs annually. But Gershenson believes presenting 1,000 programs in 2009 is not out of the question. Gershenson is also monitoring the success of a new program that allows donors to contribute \$1,000 for the right to name one of fifty newly-discovered wasp species in Costa Rica in exchange for habitat protection assurance.

GETTING INVOLVED



Bayview Police Station Captain's Community Meeting is held on the first Tuesday of each month in the Bayview Police Station Community Room at 201 William Street. Access can be gained by entering through the Newhall Street door. Next meeting: **July 7th**, 6 p.m.

Dogpatch Neighborhood Association usually meets the second Tuesday of each even-numbered month. The next meeting is **August 4th**, at Sundance Coffee on Third Street at 20th Street from 7 to 9 p.m.

McKinley Square Community Group will meet Monday, **July 13** at 6:30 p.m. at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House (entrance located at 824B Carolina Street) to elect five to seven board members, and to discuss the continuing beautification of McKinley Square. Anyone interested in being part of the board, or who want to vote on the matter or discuss the issues, is encouraged to participate. Please email info@McKinleySquare.com for further information.

Potrero Boosters meets the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (social time begins at 6:30 p.m.) in the wheelchair-accessible Game Room of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro Street. For more information, visit www.potrero boosters.org or contact President Tony Kelly at 341.8040 or president@potrero boosters.org. Next meeting: **August 25th**, 7 p.m.

Potrero Hill Association of Merchants & Businesses (PHAMB) meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. at Goat Hill Pizza, corner of Connecticut and 18th streets. Visit www.potrerohill.biz or call 341.8949. Next meeting: **July 14th**, 10 a.m.

Potrero Hill Democratic Club meets the First Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro St. For more information, call 648.6740, www.PHDemClub.org. Next Meeting: **July 7th**, 7 p.m.

Potrero Hill Garden Club usually meets the last Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. for a potluck lunch in a local home or garden. Discussions are held on subjects related to organic, edible, or ornamental gardening appropriate for Potrero Hill's microclimate. Call 648.1926 for details.

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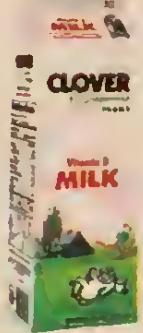
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